

CLAIMS

1. (After the amendment) A process for treating exhaust gases, comprising

a step of equipped an aeration stirring tank having a stirring device comprising a motor, a shaft rotatably connected to the motor, and a blade attached to the shaft,

a step of introducing exhaust gases into an aqueous alkaline liquid in an aeration stirring tank while stirring the aqueous alkaline liquid, and

a step of further removing harmful gases from the gases discharged from the aeration stirring tank.

2. A process for treating exhaust gases according to Claim 1, wherein said removal step comprises a process of allowing the gases discharged from the aeration stirring tank to come into contact with an aqueous liquid.

3. A process for treating exhaust gases according to Claim 1, wherein said removing step comprises a step of introducing the gases discharged from the aeration stirring tank into a packed column filled with an agent.

4. A process for treating exhaust gases according to Claim 1, wherein said removing step comprises a step of allowing the gases discharged from the aeration stirring tank to come into contact with an aqueous liquid, and a step of introducing the gases discharged from the aeration stirring tank into a packed column filled with an agent.

5. A process for treating exhaust gases according to ^{Claims 1} ~~any~~ ~~one of Claims 1 to 4~~, wherein said aqueous alkaline liquid is an aqueous solution containing no alkaline metal element

and the pH of said aqueous solution is from 7.1 to 10.

6. A process for treating exhaust gases according to ^{claim!} any ~~one of the Claims 1 to 5,~~ wherein the gases discharged from the stirring tank are transferred by a gas transfer device.

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7. A process for treating exhaust gases according to ~~any~~ ^{wherein said exhaust gases are exhaust gases discharged} ~~one of Claims 1 to 7~~, further comprising a step of discharging exhaust gases from a semiconductor production device, said exhaust gases being introduced by the introduction step into the aqueous alkaline liquid.

8. (After the amendment) An apparatus for treating exhaust gases, comprising

an aeration stirring tank for introducing exhaust gases into an aqueous alkaline liquid while stirring the aqueous alkaline liquid; and

at least one device selected from a gas-liquid contact device for allowing gases discharged from said aeration stirring device to come into contact with the aqueous liquid, and a packed column filled with an agent for passing gases discharged from said aeration stirring device;

characterized in that said aeration stirring tank has a stirring device comprising a motor, a shaft rotatably connected to the motor, and a blade attached to the shaft.

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